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Rural District of Aysgarth

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1970

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AYSGARTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Council:

	Chairman - Councillor Mrs. A.M. Mason.
	Vice-Chairman - Councillor J. Trotter.
Abbotside High	R. Balderston, Esq.
	W. Shay, Esq.
Abbotside Low	J. Scarr, Esq.
Askrigg	J. R. Abraham, Esq.
	J. Trotter, Esq. (Vice-Chairman)
Aysgarth	Dr. K. Coltman.
Bainbridge	J. W. Gregson, Esq.
	R. F. Kettlewell, Esq.
	C. Hodgson, Esq.
Bishopdale & Newbiggin	E. Drake, Esq.
West Burton	E. B. D. Johnson, Esq.
	J. D. C. Piper, Esq.
Carperby-cum-Thoresby	W. O. Alderson, Esq.
Hawes	C. Chapman, Esq.
	J. B. R. Sootheran, Esq.
	Mrs. A. M. Mason (Chairman)
	W. D. Douglas, Esq.
	W. Metcalfe, Esq.
Thoralby	G. C. S. Bryant, Esq.
Thornton Rust	W. J. C. Mayne, Esq.

OFFICERS.

Clerk of the Council	John H. Richards, F.I.M.T.A.
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. H.R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B.D.P.H. Dales Area Health Office, Quaker Lane, Richmond, Yorks. Tel: Richmond 2122.
Public Health Inspector & Surveyor	Kenneth J. Jolley, D.P.A. M.A.P.H.I. Test., Inst.P.C.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1970

To: The Chairman and Members of the Aysgarth Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I was appointed Medical Officer of Health, following the retirement of Dr. Diggles on 1st April, 1970. I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1970. The report follows the lines of previous reports.

The Birth Rate as adjusted by the comparability factor was 13.2 compared to 16.0 for England and Wales. There were no infant deaths. The General Mortality rate (adjusted) was 15.0 compared with 11.7 for England and Wales. I have no comments on these figures.

One Hundred and seventy-eight cases of infectious diseases were notified, 175 of these being measles. Immunisation against measles is now being offered to all children. It is hoped that this will reduce the number of cases of measles in future. One case of paratyphoid fever was also notified.

The water supply authority for the district is the Northallerton and The Dales Water Board.

Throughout the year, routine bacteriological samples were taken by the Board and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

(H. R. Morrison)

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics.

Area in acres	81,032
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid 1970)	3,110
Population (1931 census)	4,257
Population (1951 census)	3,607
Population (1961 census)	3,303
Number of inhabited houses (1951)	1,209
Number of inhabited houses (1969)	1,341
Number of inhabited houses (1970)	1,349
Rateable Value of District (April 1970)	67,611
Product of penny rate	£249

(b) Vital Statistics. (as supplied by Registrar General)

	MALES			FEMALES		
	Total.	Legit.	Illegit.	Total.	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	14	13	1	20	19	1
Still Births	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infant Deaths						
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week	-	-	-	-	-	-

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate.	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus.	3	1	4
Other Malignant Neoplasms.	4	1	5
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	1	-	1
Cerebrovascular Disease.	2	6	8
Other Forms of Heart Disease.	1	2	3
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	3	-	3
Hypertensive Disease.	1	-	1
Cirrhosis of Liver.	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System.	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease.	10	4	14
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	-	1
Pneumonia.	1	2	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema.	3	1	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	2	1	3
All Other Accidents.	-	1	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries.	1	-	1
	41	22	63

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was necessary to take action in one case under Section 47 of the above Act which gives the Council power to remove to suitable premises, persons who are not able to devote to themselves and are not receiving from any other persons, adequate care and attention, A Magistrates Order was received under this Act, on an application by myself authorised at a Special Meeting of the Council on 9/12/70.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The details of Staff are given at the beginning of the Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The North Riding of Yorkshire County Council supply ambulance services from their station at Bainbridge.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Local Hospital accommodation is provided in Northallerton by the Northallerton Hospital Management Committee of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. In addition, a number of residents receive both in-patient and out-patient treatment at Lancaster and Bradford Hospitals.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Mid-Wifery service is under the general direction of the County Council, with the day-to-day administration being dealt with by the Area Medical Officer. Three district/nurse/midwives operate in the area.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This is provided by the North Riding of Yorkshire County Council, the day-to-day administration being dealt with by the Area Medical Officer.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER SUPPLIES

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION E.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Details of this work and of meat inspection are to be found in the Public Health Inspector's Section.

SECTION F.

PREVALANCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Infective Jaundice.	1	-	1
Measles.	96	79	175
Food Poisoning	1	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	1

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION.

INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

A total of 1166 visits and inspections were made during the year.

	Inspections	Informal Notices	Complied With	Statutory Notices	Complied With
Council Work	192	-	-	-	-
Housing	178	5	5	2	2
Public Health Acts	89	4	3	-	-
Building Regulations	277	-	-	-	-
Improvement Grants	136	-	-	-	-
Slaughter Houses(for the purpose of meat inspection)	110	-	-	-	-
Water Supply	18	-	-	-	-
Food Premises	32	-	-	-	-
Petroleum Regulations	3	-	-	-	-
Rodent Control	55	-	-	-	-
Factories Act	5	-	-	-	-
Caravans	18	-	-	-	-
Planning	26	-	-	-	-
Refuse Collection	27	-	-	-	-

Refuse Collection & Disposal

The rear of premises refuse collection at a seven day interval was maintained for the greater part of the year. Some dislocation arose due to snow and sickness. Some parts of the area still have a monthly collection and some isolated farms and houses have no service at all. I am grateful, as always, to Sedbergh Rural District Council who continue to collect from certain houses in the Western part of the District.

No improvement has been made in control of the Council's tips, insufficient time is spent on the tips and the absence of suitable covering material together with the increasing amount of plastic and paper in the refuse makes the tips most unsightly. It has not been possible to control the unauthorised use of the Aysgarth and Askrigg tips, due to their remoteness, an increasing number of vehicle bodies find their way onto these tips and are always dumped just where they cause the maximum inconvenience.

Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies.

66 samples of water were examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, 39 were reported satisfactory. No samples were submitted for chemical examination.

Total Number of dwellings in the Area	1349
Total Number of dwellings supplied from Council Mains.	1162
Percentage of dwellings supplied from Council Mains.	86%

NORTHALLERTON AND THE DALES WATER BOARD.

The Fossdale supply was brought into use during the year and work continues on the extension of the mains system to the villages of Burtersett and to the houses and hamlets East of Askrigg. Nine of the unsatisfactory samples were of water prior to chlorination, seven were from untreated supplies, the remaining twenty three were from supplies chlorinated by drip feed, this method of chlorination will soon be replaced by a more sophisticated method which should give better results.

No major shortage of water occurred during the year in spite of increased demand.

No chemical analysis of the water supply has been carried out for some time. It is known that there is very little lead pipe used in the district, in fact I do not know of a dwelling in the district where I could take a sample to submit for an examination to see if the water showed evidence of plumbo-solvency.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

There are 50 premises in the district which come within the scope of the above Regulations, they are as follows:-

Cafes	9	School Canteens	5
Public Houses	16	Fish & Chip Shops	1
Confectioners	5	Fishmongers	2
Grocers	2	Cheese Factory	1
Butchers	6	Hotels	3

It will be seen from the table of inspections that 32 visits were made to this type of premises. It is a matter for some regret to me that I cannot devote more time to this work.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The total number of animals inspected was 439 and it was necessary to make 110 visits for this purpose.

The following table gives details of the food animals killed and the amount found to be unfit.

	Bullocks	Heifers	Total cattle including Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	50	39	89	-	-	257	93
Number inspected	50	39	89	-	-	257	93
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSOS AND CISTICERCI							
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	8	7	15	-	-	7	4
Percentage	16%	18%	14%	-	-	2.5%	4.3%
Total Percentage	16%	18%	14%	-	-	2.5%	4.3%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY							
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.2%
CYSTERCERCOSIS							
Whole carcase refridgerated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The 439 animals were all killed in the one private slaughter-house in the district. The standard of hygiene remained good and the owner continued to observe his obligation to notify slaughter. All the animals were young and in prime condition, there is a field nearby where animals can be kept and rested before fasting and slaughter, the meat from this source is always high quality.

It will be seen that two pigs had tuberculosis lesions, the disease was confined to the organs involved, this condition is very rarelyseen in food animals now-a-days, whereas a few years ago it was common.

In my absence meat inspection is carried out by Mr. Robert Seeds of Leyburn to whom I am most grateful.

SEWERAGE.

Table showing houses connected to Sewers and Water Mains in the Various Parishes.

Parish:	Total Properties	To Sewer	Otherwise	Septic Tanks	Water Mains
Abbotside High	85	36	12	37	56
Abbotside Low	45	1	5	39	33
Askrigg L.A.	131	130	-	1	131
Askrigg N.L.A.	40	1	1	38	32
Aysgarth L.A.	58	58	-	-	58
Aysgarth N.L.A.	26	5	2	19	26
Bainbridge L.A.	88	87	1	-	38
Bainbridge N.L.A.	84	18	5	62	61
Bishopdale	12	-	2	10	-
Burton-cum-Walden L.A.	93	93	-	-	93
Burton-cum-Walden N.L.A.	31	-	3	28	7
Hawes L.A.	373	366	-	6	368
Hawes N.L.A.	93	19	13	61	23
Newbiggin	24	-	2	22	23
Thoralby L.A.	46	50	-	6	46
Thoralby N.L.A.	9	-	5	4	-
Thornton Rust.	41	-	1	40	39
Carperby-cum-Thoresby L.A.	63	63	-	-	63
Carperby-cum-Thoresby N.L.A.	13	-	-	13	5
Total:	1355	917	52	386	1150

A total of 81 non-domestic properties are connected to Council sewers.

The Council continued to make charges for the reception into their sewers of farm effluent and no revision of the charge was made.

Not much progress was made towards the reconstruction of the Hawes and Gayle sewage disposal works. A visit was made to the Ministry to discuss the proposals and to investigate the possibility of grant assistance,no assistance is available under the Rural Water Supplies & Sewerage Acts but there is a possibility of a grant under the Industrial Employment Act. A night survey of the sewers was made at the request of the Ministry to determine the extent of surface water infiltration.

HOUSING.

The Housing Rent and Repairs Act, 1954, Section 1. (Housing Proposals)

The number of unfit houses in the District which are regarded as being unfit and incapable of being made fit was 47 at the beginning of the year, this was reduced to 41 during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 and The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and 1969.

The Council offered 13 discretionary grants amounting to £8,606, 3 of these grants were in respect of conversions which will provide 5 dwellings. 9 Standard grants were offered, the possible maximum of £1,850 included three to the higher limit. £9,012 was paid in respect of 11 improvement grants which include three conversions into dwellings. £4,236 was paid in respect of 24 Standard grants. Almost all the standard grants were concerned with providing bathrooms where previously none had existed and in eight of the houses water closets with septic tank drainage were provided in lieu of dry closets.

New Council Houses.

Plans were prepared for four three bedroom houses at Askrigg. An unfit house at Worton was purchased and made fit with grant assistance.

Housing Survey.

The following table shows the classification of the houses inspected in the Rural Housing Survey.

	Not Inspected	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 5
Abbotside High	8	4	46	20	4
Abbotside Low	4	16	14	8	5
Askrigg	5	35	81	51	5
Aysgarth	2	29	40	11	3
Bainbridge	5	49	92	23	3
Bishopdale	4	-	7	1	-
Burton-cum-Walden	24	28	58	22	1
Carperby-cum-Thoresby	2	23	35	16	-
Hawes	20	144	206	68	18
Newbiggin	-	2	16	5	1
Thoralby	-	16	26	6	1
Thornton Rust	-	12	26	3	-
Total: 1970.	74	358	647	234	41
Total: 1969.	84	344	619	255	47

The above table shows a reduction of 27 in the number of unfit houses, of this number 6 were in Category 5, that is to say they were regarded as being incapable of being made fit at a reasonable expense. This is an improvement on previous years.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.

OVERCROWDING

No accurate figures are available as the overcrowding survey done many years ago has not been brought up-to-date. It is certain that there is no serious overcrowding.

HOUSING AND NEW BUILDINGS
Conversions by Private Enterprise & New Houses

The table below gives details of houses under construction and those completed since 1945 in various parishes.

Parish:	Completed:	Under Construction:
Bainbridge	5	Nil
Hawes	20	Nil
Askrigg	10	3
Thornton Rust	5	Nil
Aysgarth	7	Nil
High Abbotside	1	Nil
Low Abbotside	9	Nil
West Burton	5	Nil
Thoralby	3	1
Carperby	1	1
Total:	66	5

HOUSES BUILT BY AYSGARTH R.D.C.

Parish:	To 31/12/69.	Under Construction:
Hawes	61	Nil
Bainbridge	20	-
Askrigg	10	-
Carperby	6	-
Aysgarth	4	-
Thoralby	2	--
West Burton	2	-
Total:	105	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, BUILDING REGULATIONS.

94 plans were considered during the year. Details are shown in the following table, 277 visits were made, an average of three visits per deposited plan.

Parish:	New Houses	Alterations & extensions to dwellings	Garages & Sheds	Cow-Sheds & Dairies & Piggeries	Alterations to buildings other than dwellings.	Division of dwelling houses & conversions to same.	Total
Hawes	1	20	7	4	2	2	36
Bainbridge	1	3	-	1	1	-	6
Askrigg	3	6	2	1	2	1	15
Carperby	2	2	-	-	1	1	6
Aysgarth	-	3	3	-	5	-	11
High Abbotside	-	3	-	1	-	-	4
Low Abbotside	-	3	1	-	-	-	4
Thornton Rust	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
West Burton	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
Thoralby	2	2	1	-	-	1	6
Newbiggin	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Bishopdale	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total:	9	44	17	8	11	5	94

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The conveniences receive daily attention from cleaners and frequent attention from dismantlers and despoilers. The nett result is not as satisfactory as one would wish.

RODENT CONTROL.

55 visits were made to premises other than Council properties. The Council continued to issue Warfarin based poison free of charge to occupiers of domestic properties. Advice was given in all cases and in some cases I carried out treatments.

The Council's tips and other properties were treated during the year and no serious infestations occurred.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises:	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	5	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	-	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	19	5	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred BY H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.I.).....	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).....	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).....	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary convenience (S.7).....	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not seperate for sexes.....	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not included offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	-	-	-	-	-

There are no outworkers in the Rural District.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955. MILK RETAILERS.

I am grateful to the County Health Inspector for the following information.

No. of Retailers.	20
No. of samples taken	90
No. passed Methylene Blue Test	84
No. failed " " "	4
No. void	2
No. negative to Milk Ring Test	84
No. positive " " " "	6
No. positive on Brucella Abortus Test	Nil
No. negative " " " "	27
No. positive on Tubercle Bacilli Biological Test	Nil
No. negative " " " Biological Test	27

Of the 6 Milk Ring Test positive three samples were positive on culture.

6 samples were taken at the Old Peoples Home, Bainbridge, all passed the Methylene Blue test, two were positive to the Milk Ring test for Brucella and one positive on culture.

All the milk retailed in the Rural District is raw or untreated milk.